Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace paragraph [0062] with the following amended paragraph:

[0062] Box 610 represents a "well behaved device" in which a port has no unusual traffic patterns and utilization is not high. Box 614 illustrates an F_Port that is identified as congested in the RX direction but since link utilization is low, the module 230 determines that the cause is a busy device elsewhere and the congestion type of backpressure (which is generated by the port in the RX direction). Box 618 indicates that the port is busy in the RX direction but not congested. However, at 620, backpressure ~~congestion~~ is detected at the port in the RX direction, as the port is not keeping up with frames being sent to the port. Hence, the port generates backpressure and the module 230 determines a likely cause to be over-subscription of the RX device. Box 626 illustrates a TX loaded device with lower utilization in which backpressure ~~congestion~~ is detected, but since utilization is low, the module 230 determines a likely cause of congestion is a slow drain device linked to the F or FL_Port. Box 630 illustrates a port identified as busy but not congested. At 636, the device is detected to be experiencing backpressure ~~congestion~~ and with high utilization in a TX device, the cause is determined to potentially be an over-subscribed TX device. Boxes 640, 650, and 660 are provided to show that the monitored F or FL_Port may have the same congestion status in both the RX and TX directions.

Please replace paragraph [0062] with the following amended paragraph:

[0063] Figure 7 is a similar logical graph of congestion analysis 700 of an E_Port with the axis 704 showing levels of link utilization and axis 708 indicating which direction of the port is being monitored. At box 710 the ISL is determined to be well behaved with no congestion issues. At box 712, low utilization is detected but backpressure congestion is being generated, and the module 230 determines that a busy device elsewhere may be the cause of congestion in the RX direction. At 714, the RX ISL is determined to be busy but not congested. At 716, backpressure ~~congestion~~ is being generated and when combined with high link utilization the module 230 determines that the RX ISL is possibly congested. At 720, backpressure is detected in the TX direction, and because utilization is low, the module 230 determines that the source of congestion may be a throttled ISL. At box 724, the TX ISL is

noted to be busy but not congested. At 728, backpressure is detected in the TX direction of the E_Port, and when this is combined with high link utilization, the module 230 determines that the TX ISL may be congested. As with Figure 7, boxes 730, 736, and 740 are provided to indicate that the congestion status in the RX and TX directions of an E_Port may be identical (or may differ as shown in the rest of Figure 7).

Please replace paragraph [0080] with the following amended paragraph:

[0080] The following examples provide details on the operation of the system 100 of Figure 1 to determine congestion within a fabric at the port level and at the fabric level. Specifically, Example 1 shows how the congestion statistic calculation is performed for a single port, and Example 2 builds on Example 1 and provides a look at how a ~~Counter~~ Congestion Threshold Alert may be handled based on the calculated congestion management statistical set of Example 1. Example 3 depicts a method of determining fabric level congestion detection.

Amendments to the Drawings:

The attached sheet of drawings includes changes to Figure 4. This sheet, which includes Figure 4, replaces the original sheet including Figure 4 that was originally filed with informal amendments to the text in element 470.